



City Church

PHILADELPHIA

Sunday January 7, 2018

Epiphany

“Jesus, the Light of the World”

PRELUDE

PREPARATION

Our eyes have seen your salvation,
a light to enlighten the nations
and the glory of your people Israel.

All Amen.

A period of silence is kept.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

All And also with you

Christ came and proclaimed the gospel,
All peace to those who are far off
and peace to those who are near.

OPENING SONG

O Light that Knew No Dawn - Gregory of Nanzianzus, Bifrost Arts

O light that knew no dawn, that shines to endless day,
all things in earth and heaven are lustred by thy ray;
no eye can to thy throne ascend,
nor mind thy brightness comprehend.

Thy grace, O Father, give, that we might serve in fear;
above all else, we pray, grant us thy voice to hear.
From sin thy children in mercy free,
and let us dwell in light with thee.

That, cleansed from stain of sin, we may meet homage give;
and pure in heart, behold thy beauty while we live;
clean hands in holy worship raise,
and thee, O Christ our savior, praise.

Thy grace, O Father, give, we humbly thee implore,
and let thy mercy bless thy servants more and more.
All grace and glory be to thee,
from age to age eternally.

OPENING RESPONSORIAL

Give the king your judgements, O God,
All and your righteousness to the son of a king.
May his dominion extend from sea to sea
and from the River to the ends of the earth.
May his foes kneel before him
and his enemies lick the dust.

The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute;
the kings of Sheba and Seba shall bring gifts.

All kings shall fall down before him;
all nations shall do him service.

For he shall deliver the poor that cry out,
the needy and those who have no helper.

from Psalm 72

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND THANKSGIVING

DOXOLOGY — Francis of Assisi, Jonathan Gilley

All ye who are of tender heart,
forgiving others take your part.

Sing his praises, Alleluia!
Ye, who long pain and sorrow bear,
praise God and on him cast your care!
O praise him! O praise him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let all things their creator bless,
and worship him in humbleness,
O praise him, Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit three in one,
O praise him! O praise him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

CONFESSION OF SIN

All Lord of the nations,
we confess we have not followed your light
or stood in awe as you have come near to us.
We are truly sorry for our pride
and for our lack of faith and love.
We repent of our narrow-mindedness,
our bitterness, and our prejudices.
Have mercy on us and forgive us.
Amen.

WORDS OF COMFORT AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Almighty God,
who in Jesus Christ has given you
a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,
forgive you your sins,
open your eyes to God's truth,
strengthen you to do God's will,
and give you the joy of his kingdom,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

SONGS OF PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

Brightest and Best of the Sons of the Morning - Reginald Heber,
Southern Harmony

Hail the blest morn, see the great mediator,
down from the regions of glory descend!
Shepherds, go worship the babe in the manger,
Lo, for his guard the bright angels attend.

*Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,
dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid.
Star in the east, the horizon adorning,
guide where our infant redeemer was laid.*

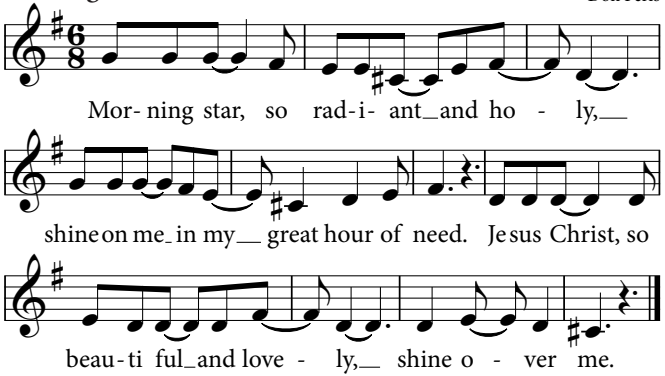
Cold on his cradle the dewdrops are shining,
low lies his bed, with the beasts of the stall.
Angels adore him, in slumber reclining,
wise men and shepherds before him do fall.

Say, shall we yield him, in costly devotion,
odors of Eden and offerings divine?
Gems from the mountain, and pearls from the ocean,
myrrh from the forest, and gold from the mine?

Vainly we offer each ample oblation;
vainly with gold we his favor secure.
Richer by far is the heart's adoration,
dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.

Morning Star

Don Peris



Mor-ning star, so rad-i-ant_and ho - ly,___
shine on me_in my__ great hour of need. Jesus Christ, so
beau-ti-ful_and love - ly,___ shine o - ver me.

BAPTISM AND MEMBERSHIP RECEPTION

Landon and Schaefer Roberts (Fairmount)

Minister (to the candidates and parents):

Do you renounce sin and the power of evil in your life
and in the world?

Candidates and Parents:

I renounce them.

Minister (to the candidates and parents):

Who is your Lord and Savior?

Candidates and Parents:

Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.

Minister (to the candidates):

Will you be a faithful member of this congregation,
and through worship and service seek to advance
God's purposes here and throughout the world?

Candidates:

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Minister (to the parents):

Do you promise to instruct these children in the truth
of God's word, in the way of salvation through Jesus
Christ; to pray for them, to teach them to pray; and to
train them in Christ's way by your example, through
worship, and in the nurture of the church?

Parents:

I do, and I ask God to help me.

Minister (to the congregation):

Do you promise to love, encourage, and support
these brothers and sisters by teaching the gospel of
God's love, by being an example of Christian faith and
character, and by giving the strong support of God's
family in fellowship, prayer, and service.

Congregation: **We do.**

The sacrament of baptism is administered.

Pastoral Prayer is offered.

**All Joyfully we receive you into the body of Christ.
Join with us as we give witness in the world
to the good news,
for we are all one in Christ Jesus.
Alleluia.**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Children attending kindergarten and younger are invited to go to their classes at this time. Children in 1st and 2nd grades are invited to Children's Church and will return during the Offering.

THE WORD OF GOD

Old Testament reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

¹Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. ²For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. ³Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. ⁴Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. ⁵Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. ⁶A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

This is the Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gospel reading: Matthew 2:1-12

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ⁶'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" ⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their trea-

sure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

“Jesus, the Light of the World” – The Rev. Chris Currie

OFFERING AND PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

The offertory is an opportunity to participate in the ministry of City Church. Online giving is available at citychurchphilly.com/give. If you're visiting, we are so glad you are worshipping with us, but please do not feel obligated to give.

COMMUNION

The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord,

Hosanna in the highest!

The minister concludes the Eucharistic Prayer and speaks the Words of Institution.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

All Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.

All Therefore, let us keep the feast.

We use wine in Communion. Non-alcoholic white grape juice and gluten-free rice cakes are also available if preferred. Please recycle your Communion cup as you leave worship.

COMMUNION SONG

Angels from the Realms of Glory - Henry Thomas Smart,
James Montgomery

Angels from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
ye who sang creation's story
now proclaim Messiah's birth.

*Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king.*

Shepherds, in the field abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with man is now residing;
yonder shines the infant light.

Sages, leave your contemplations,
brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great Desire of nations;
ye have seen his natal star.

Saints, before the altar bending,
watching long in hope and fear;
suddenly the Lord, descending,
in his temple shall appear.

All creation, join in praising
God, the Father, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising
to the eternal three in one.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

All God of glory,
you nourish us with your Word
who is the bread of life.
Fill us with your Holy Spirit,
that through us the light of your glory
may shine in all the world.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

BLESSING AND SENDING

As with Gladness Men of Old - Dix, Kocher, Monk

As with gladness, men of old
did the guiding star behold,
as with joy they hailed its light
leading onward, beaming bright;
so, most gracious God, may we
evermore be led to thee.

As with joyful steps they sped
to that lowly manger bed,
there to bend the knee before
him whom heaven and earth adore;
so may we with willing feet
ever seek thy mercy seat.

As they offered gifts most rare
at that manger rude and bare;
so may we with holy joy,
pure and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to thee, our heavenly king.

Holy Jesus, every day
keep us in the narrow way;
and, when earthly things are past,
bring our ransomed souls at last
where they need no star to guide,
where no clouds thy glory hide.

In the heavenly country bright,
need they no created light;
thou its Light, its Joy, its Crown,
thou its Sun which goes not down;
there forever may we sing
alleluias to our king!

BENEDICTION

DISMISSAL

Let us go forth to serve the world as those who love
our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

All **Thanks be to God.**

West Philly

Candy Cason: liturgist

Bethany Brooks: piano, voice

Ross Bellenoit: guitar

Fairmount

Jonathan Davis: liturgist

Bethany Brooks: piano, voice

Ross Bellenoit: guitar

Please visit citychurchphilly.com and subscribe
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community life and church events.

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